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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION

1981 session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 50th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 19 February 1981, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. GONZALEZ GALVEZ (Mexico)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.30 p.m.

ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIRMAN AND RAPPORTEUR

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to elect a Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur.

2. Mr. BLANKSON (Nigeria), speaking on behalf of the African Group, nominated Mr. Elaraby (Egypt) for the office of Vice-Chairman.

3. Mr. Elaraby (Egypt) was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

4. Mr. HAYASHI (Japan), speaking on behalf of the Asian Group, nominated Mrs. Ramiro-Lopez (Philippines) for the office of Rapporteur.

5. Mrs. Ramiro-Lopez (Philippines) was elected Rapporteur by acclamation.

The meeting was suspended at 3.40 p.m. and resumed at 3.55 p.m.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

6. The CHAIRMAN said that consultations with the Chairman would be held as often as he deemed necessary, but that the Committee should give greater decision-making powers to the Vice-Chairman and the Rapporteur. A plenary meeting was to be held the following morning to discuss observers, but the meetings on Thursday and Friday and during the following week would be working group meetings. Morning meetings would be devoted to the question of the maintenance of international peace and security, and afternoon meetings to the peaceful settlement of disputes. The Committee would ask the Secretary-General to request a high-level official of the Secretariat to report orally to the Committee as soon as possible on the work accomplished to date on the rationalization of General Assembly procedures, so that a decision could be taken on the basis of that report. He suggested that specific proposals should be submitted to the General Assembly and that the establishment of a time-limit for the submission of proposals should be set by the sponsors. A decision on the other points raised at the previous meeting would be postponed.

7. Mr. MUSEUX (France) said that it was a hypothetical question whether or not recommendations should be made to the General Assembly and that, whatever the results of the Secretary-General's report on the rationalization of General Assembly procedures, France had proposals that it wished to discuss.

8. The CHAIRMAN said that all groups had agreed on the general outline of the organization of the Committee's work. If there were no objections, he would take it that the Committee agreed to his suggestions.

9. It was so decided.

10. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes should be given priority and announced that the relevant documents (A/C.6/35/L.5 and L.21, and A/C.6/35/WG.1/R.1) would be discussed in the working group to be convened following the Committee's meeting.

The meeting rose at 4.05 p.m.